



ALAMEDA COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

1333 BROADWAY, SUITE 220 • OAKLAND, CA 94612 • PHONE: (510) 836-2560 • FAX: (510) 836-2185
E-MAIL: mail@accma.ca.gov • WEB SITE: accma.ca.gov

Transportation Update

February 2005

CMA Retreat Features Caltrans and MTC Director

On Friday, February 4th the CMA Board held its annual retreat. New Caltrans Director Will Kempton and MTC Executive Director Steve Heminger provided the Board with their assessment of changes that are on the horizon in transportation.

Director Kempton stated that the Administration's plan is to transform Caltrans from a transportation bureaucracy to a mobility company. He plans to nurture a strong partnership with local and regional agencies and work closely with the CTC on budget and programming issues. He noted that the Governor has had to make tough choices on the budget, dealing with a large inherited deficit, totaling \$8-9 billion this coming fiscal year and that the Governor understands the great importance of transportation to the California economy and quality of life.

Director Heminger noted that the last gas tax increase in California was enacted in 1990. He believes it is doubtful that we will see another one in the next few years. Proposition 42 has been a disappointment and a false promise, because it has been suspended since its first year. The problem is that it places transportation in competition with other General Fund programs, such as education, health, law enforcement, etc. That is a debate that transportation cannot win. The legislature is unlikely to close the Proposition 42 loophole completely. Thus, it is likely that it will have to be done through the initiative process.

Speakers also included proponents of two proposals to better protect existing

transportation funding – Save Proposition 42 and Rescue Transportation.

Proponents from the two sponsoring organizations explained these proposals to the Board. The CMA's Sacramento and Washington, DC representatives briefed the Board on the status of transportation initiatives. A summary of the retreat is available from the CMA offices.

Projects Submitted for Combined Funding Programs

In December, a call for projects for the Transportation Fund for Clean Air Program Manager funds was released in conjunction with a coordinated call for projects that also included the Measure B bicycle/pedestrian Countywide Discretionary program and TDA Article 3 bicycle/pedestrian program. Thirty-four applications have been submitted for the coordinated call for projects. Staff from the CMA, ACTIA and the County are in the process of reviewing the project applications. A draft program is expected in March with the final program to be adopted in April.

Annual Report Approved

The CMA's 2003-4 annual report has been approved by the Board. The report will be available on the CMA's website soon.

Altamont Commuter Express Service Plan for 2005-6 Unveiled

At the February CMA Board meeting, ACE staff reviewed the proposed service plan for 2005-6. Given the current economic conditions, the plan does not anticipate any increases in service or a fare increase. The plan calls for ways to recapture riders lost over the last several

years due to job losses resulting from the economic down turn. Additional information on the service can be found on the ACE website at www.acerail.com.

2005-6 Draft Budget Adopted

The CMA Board has adopted a draft budget for fiscal year 2005-6. Copies of the draft budget can be obtained at the CMA offices. A final budget and work program will be adopted at the March 24th Board meeting.

State Funding Program "At Risk" Report Available

The Quarterly At Risk report for local projects programmed in the State Transportation Improvement Program is available at the CMA offices or on the CMA's web site. This report indicates which projects need attention in order to meet the CMA and statutory deadlines.

Legislation

AB 1623 (Klehs) – This bill would authorize the Alameda County CMA to impose an annual fee of up to \$4 on motor vehicles to manage traffic congestion and to mitigate the environmental impacts of motor vehicles within Alameda County. The CMA would be required to adopt a program for the fee by a 2/3 vote. The fee would sunset on January 1, 2012 unless reauthorized by the Legislature. The CMA is the sponsor of this legislation.

Senator Perata Proposes Statewide Bond for Bay Bridge and other Seismic Retrofit Needs

The cost overruns associated with seismic retrofit of the Bay Bridge and other toll bridges has generated considerable discussion about how to pay for these higher costs. Senator Perata has recently suggested a statewide bond measure that would fund seismic upgrades for the toll bridges and hospitals. The Governor continues to suggest toll increases as his preferred approach. In order to protect public safety, the Legislature and the

Governor will need to develop a funding solution quickly.

Deadlines to Note

TDA Article 3 Bicycle/Pedestrian Program, Measure B Bicycle/Pedestrian Program, and Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA): County Program

<i>Draft Program</i>	<i>March 2005</i>
<i>Final Program</i>	<i>April 2005</i>

Local Street & Road Maintenance, Rehabilitation, Safety Funding -- \$3.4 million

<i>Draft Road Program</i>	<i>April 2005</i>
<i>Final Road Program</i>	<i>May 2005</i>

Congestion Management Program – 2005 Update

<i>Draft</i>	<i>June 2005</i>
<i>Final</i>	<i>September 2005</i>

Upcoming Meetings

<i>March</i>	<i>1 CMA Technical Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>2/3 CTC (Sacramento)</i>
	<i>14 CMA Administration & Legislation Committee</i>
	<i>14 CMA Plans & Programs Committee</i>
	<i>24 CMA Board Meeting</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>1 Tri Valley Triangle Analysis Policy Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>5 CMA Technical Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>11 CMA Administration & Legislation Committee</i>
	<i>11 CMA Plans & Programs Committee</i>
	<i>28 CMA Board Meeting</i>

Published by:
Alameda County Congestion Management Agency
1333 Broadway, Suite 220
Oakland, California 94612
(510) 836-2560
Fax (510) 836-2185
E-mail: mail@accma.ca.gov
Web site: www.accma.ca.gov

Executive Director: Dennis R. Fay
